

(Washington, D.C.) - Congressman Ciro D. Rodriguez (TX-23) announced today the advancement of a \$5.2 million appropriations request for Laughlin Air Force Base (AFB) in the FY08 Military Construction (MilCon) Appropriations bill. The FY08 MilCon Conference report released today included \$5.2 million for Laughlin AFB to construct a new military student center and library.

"The \$5.2 million allocation for Laughlin AFB will support the next generation of Air Force leaders that we are proud to train right here in Del Rio," said Congressman Ciro D. Rodriguez. "I worked closely with Chairman Chet Edwards to ensure that the \$5.2 million in funding for this Laughlin AFB project were included in total, and I will continue to carefully monitor this project request through the remainder of the Appropriations process. Although President Bush has threatened to veto nearly all Appropriations bills, I hope that in this case he will agree that there is substantial benefit to supporting our military needs and the next generation of military leaders by signing the MilCon appropriations bill when it reaches his desk."

The \$5.2 million appropriations request for Laughlin AFB by Congressman Rodriguez would fund the construction of a new military student facility at Laughlin AFB in Del Rio. The new facility would provide a consolidated location for all of the military student education and library support, and include a complete communications plant infrastructure upgrade.

The FY08 MilCon Conference report, which includes the \$5.2 million appropriation for Laughlin AFB, now goes to both the House and Senate for final approval and then to the President for his signature.

Congressman Rodriguez serves as a Member of the House Committee on Appropriations.

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